



#8
A.G.H.
12-301

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Kentaro KAWAKAMI et al.

Serial No.: 09/557,176

Group Art Unit: 1732

Filed: April 21, 2000

Examiner: STAICOVICI, S.

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR FORMING VESSEL BODY
AND THUS FORMED VESSEL BODY

RECEIVED
NOV 29 2001
TC 1700

RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
DATED OCTOBER 5, 2001

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: November 27, 2001

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated October 5, 2001.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-3, drawn to a process of forming a vessel body; Group (II), Claims 4-10, drawn to an apparatus for forming a vessel body; and Group (III), Claims 11-16, drawn to a vessel body.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (II), Claims 4-10, for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge
our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN, HATTORI,
McLELAND & NAUGHTON, LLP



William G. Kratz, Jr.
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 22,631

Atty. Docket No. 000549
1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20006
Tel: (202) 659-2930
Fax: (202) 887-0357
WGK/nrp